

Copy  
Rev & J Baynes Mad<sup>r</sup> P. S<sup>t</sup> Sepion  
Dr Sir

I have to request the Session to  
Relieve me from the responsibilities of Elder of  
this Congregation, It is now within a few months of  
40 years since I was ordained. Declining faculties  
and other infirmities of old age, Admanish me  
that I ought to Retire, and leave to others the per-  
<sup>formance</sup> of those duties which could not be discharged  
by me any longer in a satisfactory manner.

I have also a strong desire to enjoy more  
retirement towards the close of my days than  
has ever yet fallen to my lot & might assign other  
Reasons for Demitting my Charge, but there I

I hope you will deem sufficient to <sup>reduce you to</sup> concede my  
wishes - while I feel Grateful to the Great head of the  
Church for that Christian Harmony and oneness  
of Spirit which has even ~~been~~ prevailed in this  
Session since I was connected with it. I sincerely  
Pray that the Holy Spirit may <sup>henceforth</sup> guide you in all  
your Councils, and Bless you in all your Efforts  
to maintain the Gospel in its scriptural Puri-  
ty

I am yours, &c  
W. Putnam, 1 Nov 1854 James Duesane

and I do not think I would be acting  
wisely to hold on to office when I could do  
nothing to discharge its duties properly.

Brother's Journal  
1855  
Nov 5